



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

July 9, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

## **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum contains a report on the adjournment of the Legislature for the Summer Recess; a status on Governor Brown's Reorganization Plan; and updates on seven County-advocacy measures related to: 1) energy assistance program eligibility; 2) county sealers; 3) administration of estates; 4) arming of probation officers; 5) electronic filing of the Statement of Economic Interest Form; 6) expedited judicial review of Environmental Impact Reports; and 7) extension of existing tax credits for motion picture production.

### **Legislature Adjourns for the Summer Recess**

On Friday, July 6, 2012, the Legislature adjourned for its Summer Recess, and will reconvene on August 6, 2012 to take action on remaining legislation leading up to the conclusion of the 2011-12 Legislative Session. The Legislature is expected to consider Governor Brown's pension reform proposal and the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System when they reconvene in August.

### **Governor's Reorganization Plan**

On July 3, 2012, Governor Brown's Reorganization Plan became law. The plan will be implemented over the next year and will cut the number of State agencies from 12 to 10 and eliminate or consolidate dozens of departments and entities. According to the Governor, the plan will make State government more effective and will reduce wasteful spending. Of major interest to the County, the reorganization plan includes the elimination of the California Department of Boating and Waterways (CDBW), transferring the functions to a division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. The County opposed the Governor's proposal to eliminate CDBW. In

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connection with this element of the plan, the California Boating and Waterways Commission is eliminated.

For your information, a summary of the Governor's reorganization plan is available at: [http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Cover\\_Letter\\_and\\_Summary.pdf](http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Cover_Letter_and_Summary.pdf). The Governor's plan in full is available at: [http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Reorganization\\_plan.pdf](http://gov.ca.gov/docs/Reorganization_plan.pdf).

### **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**

**County-supported AB 1124 (Skinner)**, which would have required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in its review of the energy efficiency programs of electrical corporations and gas corporations, to ensure compliance with specified principles, was amended on June 12, 2012 to delete these provisions.

As currently amended, AB 1124 would modify provisions related to a landlord's duties of habitability and would clarify that the minimum requirements for rental housing do not preclude a tenant or owner of rental properties from qualifying for a utility energy savings assistance program or other program assistance for heating or hot water system repairs or replacement that would achieve energy savings.

Current law requires California's electric utilities to first meet their energy needs through all available, feasible and cost-effective energy efficiency measures before renewable and conventional generation. Existing decisions of the CPUC require investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to administer energy efficiency programs in multi-year portfolios designed to meet pre-established energy savings goals and funded by ratepayer charges.

The Energy Savings Assistance Program (ESAP) is established to provide eligible low-income households free weatherization and energy efficiency services administered in multi-year portfolios by the IOUs as approved by the CPUC and funded by ratepayer charges. CPUC is required to ensure that by December 31, 2020, all eligible low-income customers are given the opportunity to participate in ESAP, including customers occupying apartments or similar multiunit residential structures. Current law also requires multifamily rental housing to maintain certain requirements, including adequate heating and hot water systems, in order to meet health and safety habitability standards.

According to the Internal Services Department (ISD), the IOU funded programs have a long history of overall success in promoting and implementing both renewable resources and energy efficiency. California has the lowest per capita energy usage in the country and is recognized as the nation's leader in renewables and energy efficiency. The CPUC's decisions in several prior ESAP decisions denied eligibility for furnace and hot water repair and replacement in low income rental buildings. ISD

indicates that the ESAP replaces the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The Internal Services Department indicates that, AB 1124, as amended, would permit the inclusion of low income rental properties in the IOU's ESAPs, potentially lowering energy consumption and energy costs in these properties. According to ISD, more than 41.0 percent of the housing in the County is multifamily and more than 15.0 percent of the County's population lives below the poverty level. ISD recommends continuing to support AB 1124 because the measure would assist and encourage local businesses and homeowners to implement energy efficiency and green energy programs. Therefore, consistent with existing Board policy to support: 1) proposals to assist low-income and elderly households with energy assistance, such as energy efficiency improvements; and 2) proposals that would increase access to funding under the LIHEAP in the County, **the Sacramento advocates will continue to support AB 1124.**

The Community Development Commission (CDC) indicates that the amendments to AB 1124 have no impact on CDC.

AB 1124 is sponsored by the California Housing Partnership Corporation. It is supported by the BRIDGE Housing Corporation, Burbank Housing, California Housing Consortium, Century Housing, Coalition for Economic Survival, Global Green, National Consumer Law Center, National Housing Law Project, Sheet Metal Workers Local 104, and US Green Building Council, among others. There is no registered opposition on file. AB 1124 passed the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee by a vote of 12 to 0 on June 19, 2012. This measure is currently on the Senate Floor.

**County-supported AB 1623 (Yamada)**, which as amended on June 26, 2012, would extend the authority of county board of supervisors to charge an annual registration fee to recover the costs of the county sealer from January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2018, among other provisions, failed to pass the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee by a vote of 4 to 2 on July 2, 2012, but was granted reconsideration and passed the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee by a vote of 6 to 2 on July 5, 2012. This measure is currently on the Senate Floor.

**County-opposed AB 1670 (Lara)**, which as amended on June 25, 2012, would until January 1, 2016, authorize a court to appoint a person nominated by a non-resident heir as an administrator of a decedent's estate, with specific stipulations to allow courts to consider whether the nominee, who must be a California resident, is capable of faithfully executing the duties of the office, passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by a vote of 3 to 2 on July 3, 2012. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

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**County-opposed AB 1968 (Wieckowski)**, which as amended on May 29, 2012 would authorize a probation officer to carry a firearm as determined by the chief probation officer on a case-by-case basis, and would require chief probation officers to develop a policy for arming probation officers who supervise high-risk probationers by June 30, 2013, passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a vote of 4 to 3 on July 3, 2012. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**County-supported AB 2062 (Davis)**, which as amended on May 25, 2012, would permit all filers of the Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) to submit statements electronically in accordance with Fair Political Practices Commission regulations, and would require local government agencies intending to use an electronic filing system to pay a fee of \$1,000 along with their initial system proposal, passed the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee by a vote of 5 to 0 on July 3, 2012. AB 2062 is an urgency measure and would be effective immediately, if enacted by the Legislature and signed by Governor Brown. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**County-supported-and-amend SB 52 (Steinberg)**, which as amended on June 26, 2012, would make technical and clarifying changes to allow public projects to qualify under AB 900 (Chapter 354, Statutes of 2011) which created an expedited judicial review process and specified procedures for the preparation and certification of the administrative record for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), failed passage in the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy by a vote of 2 to 3 on July 3, 2012.

**County-supported SB 1167 (Calderon)**, which would extend for five years the requirement that the California Film Commission (CFC) annually allocate tax credits to qualifying motion pictures through FY 2019-20 and would require certain information be provided to the effectiveness and administration of the tax credit program, was amended on July 5, 2012, to instead extend the tax credits for two additional years through FY 2016-17 and to require the CFC to annually post on its Internet Web site specific information on the tax credit program. This measure passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee by a vote of 8 to 1 on June 28, 2012, and is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 6, 2012.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA  
MR:VE:IGEA:lm

c: All Department Heads  
Legislative Strategist